Guidelines for certifying a product as product

2509. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the product Revital has been classified as a food product;

(b) if so, the criteria and guidelines for certifying a product as food product;

(c) whether it is also a fact that NPPA had issued notice for not taking the price approval for Revital;

(d) the estimated over-charged amount;

(e) whether the company is trying to circumvent the Drugs Price Control Order by classifying this product as a food item; and

(f) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) "Food" has been defined under the PFA Act, 1954, as any article used as food or drink for human consumption other than drugs and water.

The licensing of food is done by the State Governments under Section 24 of the PFA Act, 1954.

The Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), which is a statutory body under PFA Act, 1954, has not recommended the product 'Revital' to be classified as food product.

(c) to (f) It is not covered under the Drugs Price Control Order, [DPCO] 1995.

Pneumonia disease

2510. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the WHO has recently issued a global warning about spread of pneumonia which has claimed many lives;

(b) if so, whether Government on the warning of WHO have taken any steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the plans formulated to check spread of this particular disease in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. WHO issued a Global alert about the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

(b) to (d) No suspected/probable case of SARS has been reported in India till date. However, keeping in view the implications of an epidemic, Government of India, has taken necessary steps which include the following:—

⇒ The immigration authorities have been sensitized about symptoms of SARS. A Performa to be filled in by all passengers disembarking in India has been devised and made available to Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Shipping to ensure proper check at Airports and Ports and also to sensitize the passengers.

⇒ State/Union Territory Governments have been given the standard case definition, patient management and discharge protocols. They have been requested to be in readiness in conformity to the internationally accepted guidelines for managing any suspected case of SARS.

⇒ The health care facilities at International Airports and Ports have been strengthened in addition to the existing facilities. The health staff have been alerted to monitor passengers of flights and ships arriving in India in consultation with immigration authorities and to report on any suspected case to the concerned Health authorities for further appropriate action.

⇒ National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and National Institute of Virology, Pune have been identified as the nodal agencies for laboratory investigation of any suspected/probable case.

⇒ Facilities for treatment of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in isolation have been arranged in the Central Government Hospitals.

Two child norm

2511. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and various other States have adopted 'the' two child norm;

(b) if so, the States which have, so far, adopted this norm;

(c) to what extent, it has been successful;

(d) whether the two States—Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, have been able to achieve the population control;

(e) if so, the steps being considered by Government to urge the States to check the population growth;

(f) how many States have agreed;

(g) whether any norm has been set up for this; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh and various other States like Rajasthan, Haryana, Orissa, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh have enacted legislation, in relation to Panchayats and Municipalities, for disqualifying persons from contesting elections or holding elective office, if they have more than two children.

(c) There is no documentation to prove success, or lack of it, due to this policy in these States.